

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 820

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PROR, UN, PN, YO, GY

SUBJ: SCALI- MOJSOV MEETING MARCH 8: GOY NON- ALIGNMENT
AND PANAMA

REF: GEORGETOWN 301 NOTAL, KINGSTON 716 NOTAL

1. DURING AMB. SCALI'S BRIEF INITIAL CALL ON YUGOSLAV
PERM REP MOJSOV MARCH 8 MOJSOV DISCUSSED NON- ALIGNED GROUP
IN UN AND UPCOMING SC MEETING IN PANAMA. TONE OF CONVER-
SATION WAS FRANK BUT ENTIRELY RELAXED AND CORDIAL.

2. ASKED HIS VIEW OF NON- ALIGNED ROLE AT UN, MOJSOV
STRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONVICTION THAT NON- ALIGNED SHOULD
NOT FORM BLOC OR EVEN FORMALLY- STRUCTURED GROUP AT UN.
YUGOSLAVIA IN GENERAL IS NOT HAPPY WITH TENDENCY TOWARD
BLOC VOTING AT UN AND FEELS ATTEMPT BY NON- ALIGNED TO ACT
IN UNISON WOULD BE SERIOUS MISTAKE. YUGOSLAV DEL DOES NOT
HESITATE TO VOTE APART FROM MAJORITY OF NON- ALIGNED AND
TRIES TO MODERATE NON- ALIGNED VIEWS AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE
BRIDGE BETWEEN NON- ALIGNED, EAST AND WEST. THIS OF
COURSE MEANS YUGOSLAVIA OFTEN DOES NOT VOTE WITH US, BUT
NEITHER DOES YUGOSLAVIA OFTEN VOTE WITH USSR.
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3. SCALI NOTED USG UNDERSTANDING AND INDEED STRONG SUPPORT
IN PRINCIPLE FOR YUGOSLAVIA'S NON- ALIGNED STANCE. HOWEVER,

MOJSOV SURELY APPRECIATED THAT THERE COULD BE INSTANCES WHEN NON- ALIGNMENT DOES NOT ENTIRELY COINCIDE WITH BASIC US NATIONAL INTERESTS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAD REPORTS OF YUGOSLAV PRESSURE -- OR PERHAPS ENLIGHTENED PERSUASION -- DIRECTED TOWARD CERTAIN LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS REGARDING THEIR ATTENDING PANAMA SC MEETING. US OBVIOUSLY HAD VITAL NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS RELATING TO CANAL; WE THEREFORE WISHED TO MAKE CLEAR (A) THAT US WILL NOT BE FORCED BY SC MEETING TO MAKE CONCESSIONS REGARDING CANAL NEGOTIATIONS THAT WE WOULD NOT OTHERWISE MAKE, AND (B) THAT WE BELIEVE IMAGE OF SC AND UN WOULD SUFFER BADLY AMONG US CONGRESS AND PUBLIC OPINION IF PANAMA MEETING BECOMES PRO- PAGANDA AND PUBLICITY FORUM. WE BELIEVE IT NECESSARY TO BE FRANK ABOUT OUR POSITION RATHER THAN TO LEAVE ROOM FOR POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

4. MOJSOV SAID HE UNDERSTOOD CONCERN OF USG AND FOR HIS PART FELT SC MEETING WOULD PAVE WAY FOR FRUITFUL US- PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATIONS. YUGOSLAV DEL WOULD TRY TO PLAY MODERATING ROLE AND WOULD HOPE TO STAY IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH US DURING EXERCISE. MOJSOV UNDERSTOOD THAT PANAMANIAN HAD SUCCESSFULLY APPEALED TO CUBANS TO TAKE MODERATE LINE AT SC MEETING AND THAT SC RESOLUTION ON CANAL WOULD MERELY CALL ON BOTH SIDES TO NEGOTIATE IN SPIRIT OF UN CHARTER. IN TYPICAL MOJSOV STYLE, HE ADDED THAT SUCH RESOLUTION OF COURSE WOULD BE ADDRESSED MORE TO PANAMA THAN TO US.

5. MOJSOV EXPLAINED THAT IN HIS CAPACITY AS YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO GUYANA HE HAD INDEED SUGGESTED THAT GOG SEND FON MIN TO PANAMA. HE ADVISED THIS (A) BECAUSE HE KNEW SIZEABLE NUMBER OF OTHER LA FON MINS WOULD ATTEND AND GUYANA COULD NOT AFFORD TO APPEAR ISOLATED BY ITS ABSENCE, AND (B) BECAUSE OF VENEZUELAN FON MIN' S DECISION TO ATTEND, WHICH IN MOJSOV' S VIEW REQUIRED COMPARABLE GUYANESE PRESENCE IN LIGHT TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. (MOJSOV DID NOT MENTION NON- ALIGNED ASPECT OF HIS PITCH TO GUYANESE AS REPORTED GEORGETOWN 301).

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6. SCALI SAID WITH SMILE THAT WE WERE NOT CERTAIN WHOSE DECISION TO ATTEND SC MEETING AT FON MIN LEVEL CAME FIRST, GUYANA' S OR VENEZUELA' S, AND WE WOULD WATCH WITH GREAT INTEREST TO SEE HOW EVENTUAL SC RESOLUTIONS WAS CHARACTERIZED. IN ANY CASE, WE APPRECIATED YUGOSLAV INTENTION TO PLAY MODERATING ROLE AT PANAMA, AND AS EXERCISE NOW SEEMED TO US TO BE SHAPING UP MOJSOV PROBABLY WOULD HAVE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY THAT ROLE.

SCALI

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